

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

November 25, 2014

Los Angeles will proudly host the 2015 Special Olympics World Games (World Games), an inspirational sporting event which promotes equality, awareness, acceptance and inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities. This is the world's second-largest sporting event, which will feature nine days of challenging international competition among thousands of athletes, from July 25 to August 2, 2015. Our community will have the honor of welcoming 7,000 gifted athletes representing 177 countries to the opening Ceremony at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. This global movement offers these athletes the opportunity to build self-confidence, display courage, and experience joy. Most importantly, every athlete will leave a lasting impression by touching our hearts with each triumph and redefining our views of their capabilities that ultimately lead to worldwide acceptance.

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MOTION

MOLINA _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

ANTONOVICH _____

KNABE _____

This is the second time since 1972 that the World Games has come to Los Angeles. The event has garnered the support from our local businesses, global companies, and government agencies. The World Games will have a very positive impact on our economy. They are projected to generate at least \$415 million in identifiable benefits to Los Angeles County, according to a collaborative analysis from Micronomics, a national research and consulting firm, and the Los Angeles Tourism and Convention Board.

The State and County of Los Angeles are providing financial support in the amount of \$5 million and \$1.5 million, respectively.

A world event such as this not only needs financial support but also the generous donation of time. To help ensure its success, 30,000 volunteers are needed for assignments ranging from general, such as the “Fans in the Stands” program, to more skill-specific roles. The County of Los Angeles is committed “to enrich lives through effective and caring service,” and we have an opportunity to share these efforts with our international community by volunteering and filling temporary positions over the course of 60 to 90 days for the preparation and wrap-up of the World Games.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1. Authorize the Chief Executive Office, Office of Workplace Programs & Marketing (CEO-WPM), to work with County Departments to encourage County employees to volunteer and support the 2015 Special Olympics World Games “World Games” to be held from July 25 to August 2, 2015; and

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2. Direct Department Heads to select an employee to serve as the department's World Games coordinator and interface with CEO-WPM; and
3. Instruct that the CEO-WPM, Internal Services Department and departmental coordinators provide the necessary support for the preparation and wrap up of the World Games; and
4. Instruct that departmental coordinators submit to CEO-WPM a report on the number of hours donated for the World Games; and
5. Authorize the CEO-Public Information Office to work and coordinate with CEO-WPM, Board Offices, County Department PIO's and the 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games Organizing Committee, Inc., to promote awareness of the World Games volunteer opportunities among County employees through marketing efforts in e-mail blasts, departmental newsletters, bulletin boards, the County Intranet, mylacounty.gov, and other forms of employee communication.

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